

Eureka, Arcata and Fortuna, communities within Humboldt County. The club also worked to bring about educational opportunities for youth through the establishment of St. Bernard's Catholic Schools, Camp St. Michaels and the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 54.

On this occasion, the Eureka Council of the Knights of Columbus will honor Anthony Gosselin, Sr. as the Knight of the Century. This distinguished honor is bestowed upon the late Mr. Gosselin, who led the Knights of Columbus as a founding board member of St. Vincent de Paul, served as a volunteer fire chief for the City of Eureka and as a member of the Humboldt County Water District board for fifteen years.

Mr. Gosselin served in World War I, married Eva Dandurand and had two children, Anthony Joseph Gosselin, Jr. and Beverly Gosselin Inskip. Mr. Gosselin was a tireless volunteer and devotee of the Knights of Columbus for over 65 years.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize the Knights of Columbus, Eureka Council 1067 and the Knight of the Century, Anthony Joseph Gosselin, Sr., for distinguished and extraordinary service to the community.

**A TRIBUTE TO MR. JAMES EDWARD ODOM TRULY AN OUTSTANDING CITIZEN**

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2005*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise and ask my Colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. James Edward Odom, constituent and friend who recently passed away at the blessed age of 87 years old.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Odom enjoyed a very full life. He was first and foremost a Christian and dedicated much time as a member of St. Mark A.M.E. Church serving in several capacities. Mr. Odom always made it known that his parents taught him to first acknowledge our Creator in all things; and that is the principle by which he lived his life.

Mr. Odom attributed the many successes in life to his Christian faith. He graduated from Nash Central High School and conducted his undergraduate studies at Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina. He continued his studies at Eckles College of Mortuary Science in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and later graduated from Cortez Peters School of Business Administration in Washington, DC. Mr. Odom went further to study Standard Accounting and Management at George Washington University in Washington, DC.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Odom believed in using each of his many talents as evidenced by his significant involvement and active membership in countless organizations. The list is exhaustive with one affiliation just as impressive and important as the next. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Odom has indeed left an impression in the Nash County, Rocky Mount area where he served as Chairman of the Human Relations Commission; the First Black County Commissioner of the Nash County Board of Commissioners where he was elected to a four-year term in 1986 following a lawsuit under the Voting Rights Act; member of Unity Lodge #64; mem-

ber of the Trustee Board of St. Marks A.M.E. Church; member of the Little Raleigh Independent Club of Rocky Mount; member of the Helping Hand Club of Little Easonburg, Rocky Mount; past President of the Lay Organization of St. Mark A.M.E. Church and the list is perpetual. Further, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Odom served on the Board of Directors of the Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce; Triangle East; Cities In Schools of Rocky Mount; The Salvation Army; First Union Bank of Rocky Mount; the Rocky Mount Branch of the NAACP; Nash Central Senior Alumni Association; the National Federation of Independent Business and he held countless other posts too numerous to mention.

Mr. Speaker, I learned that in 1980, Mr. James Edward Odom and his loving wife Erma embarked upon one of the most significant and important ventures in their lives; they became the proud owners of Hunter-Odom Funeral Services. I am sure that I speak on behalf of many of my 660,000 constituents whose lives Hunter-Odom Funeral Services touched in the sincere, compassionate and sensitive manner in which they handled bereaved families as they put loved ones to rest.

Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased and proud to pay tribute to such an outstanding pillar of the Nash County community. It is my wish that God will continue to bless and keep each member of Mr. James Edward Odom's family.

**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING'S OVERSIGHT OBLIGATION**

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2005*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, during this debate on the Conference Report for the Fiscal Year 2006 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I want to call attention to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's (CPB) obligation to ensure unbiased and objective programming.

The U.S. Congress provides the CPB with approximately \$400 million each year. CPB then allocates these funds to the Public Broadcasting Service, National Public Radio, and other recipients. It does so, as the Telecommunications Act makes clear, with the responsibility to ensure that recipients demonstrate "strict adherence to objectivity and balance in all programs or series of programs of a controversial nature." CPB also must see to "maximum freedom of the public telecommunications entities and system from interference with, or control of, program content or other activities."

These two obligations do not contradict each other. Rather, together they circumscribe the lawful activity of tax-supported public broadcasting programmers and program providers. Public broadcasting should enjoy "maximum freedom" from outside "interference or control" so long as it simultaneously demonstrates "strict adherence to objectivity and balance in all programs or series of programs of a controversial nature."

Mr. Speaker, there should be no confusion. These obligations reinforce each other. The

Corporation for Public Broadcasting must implement both on behalf of Congress and the taxpayers.

I commend CPB for creating a new unique office, the Office of Ombudsmen, as a step towards ensuring that these standards of fairness and independent reporting are upheld. Guaranteeing that basic journalistic requirements of objectivity and balance are maintained in public programming is hardly interference. In fact, I strongly believe that the public's trust in public broadcasting rests on just such standards and I will continue to fight to see that they are maintained.

**RECOGNIZING SOUTH KOREA'S EFFORTS ON NORTH KOREAN REFUGEES**

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2005*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tangible, but often under-appreciated efforts the part of South Korea to address an important and urgent humanitarian concern—the resettlement of North Korean refugees.

South Korea has consistently maintained a policy to accommodate all North Korean refugees who have found safe haven abroad by permitting them to resettle in South Korea. The South Korean government also provides necessary cooperation, if the refugees wish to remain in another country, to avoid the forcible repatriation to North Korea against their will.

In the past 50 years, South Korea has resettled more than 7,100 North Korean refugees, an average of 20 persons per year between 1954 and 1997 (878 total), but at an accelerating rate since then: 72 in 1998, 148 in 1999, 312 in 2000, 583 in 2001, 1,141 in 2002, 1,281 in 2003, 1,894 in 2004, and 882 to date in 2005, with an expectation of a total refugee population of 10,000 by the end of 2006.

When North Korean refugees arrive in South Korea, they spend their first 3 months at Hanawon, a facility run by the Ministry of Unification, to receive education, orientation and basic vocational training. They also participate in social adjustment and cultural assimilation programs.

Following their orientation, the refugees are then provided with a variety of resources by the South Korean government that include assistance in finding meaningful employment for 5 years and a permanent residence in cooperation with local municipalities. They also receive general health insurance coverage and seed money to help sustain independent living.

For women refugees—which accounted for 68 percent of all North Korean refugees this year—the South Korean government additionally provides specific female vocational training and assistance with child-rearing and home protection.

For younger refugees, the South Korean government fully subsidizes all education fees through high school. If accepted into public universities, the refugees will receive full tuition including room-and-board. Should a North Korean refugee seek to study at a private university, the related costs will be covered jointly